

# VDFP LOGBOOK

Virginia Department of Fire Programs Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

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## *From the Executive Director*

Welcome to the first edition of our new bi-monthly newsletter! During our recent strategic planning process, in stakeholder meetings and in the online survey, many of you asked for printed material to complement our website. Well, we listened and here it is!

Based on your input, the principal goal for *VDFP Logbook* is to provide timely information regarding VDFP and the many programs we deliver statewide. Given the mailing and production costs associated with print media, distribution of *VDFP Logbook* will be limited. However, you can always (24/7/365) visit [www.vafire.com](http://www.vafire.com) and print as many copies as you want.

We hope this exciting new publication meets your needs and enhances our shared commitment to protecting Virginia's citizens throughout our "Commonwealth of Opportunity."

Adam K. Thiel  
Executive Director

## *From the VFSB Chairman*

The Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB) is preparing to review the FY 2004 applications for two important grant programs:

**VFIRS Hardware Grants** - Available to localities for purchasing computers that will allow fire departments to report emergency incidents into the Virginia Fire Incident Reporting System (VFIRS), administered by VDFP as part of the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). This information is critical for planning increases in equipment, staffing, and fire prevention programs—to help reduce the impact of fire on our communities and provide an overall picture of fire in Virginia.

**Training Mini-Grants** - Help fire departments purchase equipment and materials to support training activities. Funding is currently available for items to support the presentation of training programs, but not for actual course deliveries.

I encourage everyone in the fire service to attend our meetings and feel free to contact Board members with any questions or concerns. You can find more information and our meeting schedule by clicking "Virginia Fire Services Board" at [www.vafire.com](http://www.vafire.com). In closing, thank you for your dedication to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Phil Paquette  
Chairman, Virginia Fire Services Board

[www.vafire.com](http://www.vafire.com)

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# ***With Your Help - VDFP Reforms its Vision, Mission, and Core Values***

The process of developing VDFP's guidance principles (vision statement, mission statement, and core values) has been the first priority of a strategic planning process encompassing 11 statewide strategic planning stakeholder sessions (for our internal and external customers), an online survey, and a great deal of staff work.

We think you'll agree the results are outstanding...because they're yours (and those of more than 400 other participants in this comprehensive process).

Our vision sets a high standard for excellence, our mission describes the activities we will undertake to achieve our shared vision, and our values define how we will get there...together.

## **OUR VISION:**

To be the internationally recognized and trusted leader in providing fire and emergency services support to communities throughout Virginia.

## **OUR MISSION:**

In cooperation with our public and private partners — as one team, with one voice — achieve excellence in everything we do through effective communication, coordination and resource management. We provide:

**FUNDING** – Financial assistance to communities and other organizations

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Comprehensive, nationally-accredited training programs for career and volunteer emergency responders
- Higher education opportunities



### **PUBLIC FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION**

**RESEARCH**– Data collection, analysis, and information reporting

**OPERATIONAL SUPPORT**– To communities in need during emergencies of all types

**ADVOCACY**– Information, identification and promotion of best practices

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**– Subject matter expertise and consultation

## **OUR CORE VALUES:**

Core values inspire commitment to a common set of beliefs. Core values define basic principles, purpose and direction. We are convinced that the key to creating a truly great organization is an intense focus on the values that guide its actions.

**Integrity**  
**Innovative**  
**Customer-focused**

**Quality-oriented**  
**Health, wellness, and safety**  
**Ethical**  
**Teamwork**

**Dedicated**  
**Efficient**  
**Respect**

# VDFP Sets Strategic Goals

The strategic planning process involved developing VDFP's vision, mission, and core values as well as setting clearly defined goals for the next several years. These strategic goals result from our strategic planning stakeholder sessions, online survey, and over-all customer feedback. The operational objectives, activities, and tasks necessary to attain these goals will be formulated by VDFP with your help. VDFP has already started working toward these goals.

VDFP representatives will be canvassing Virginia to "roll-out" our new strategic plan and will be available to address any concerns regarding the implementation process, and answer any questions. Look for the strategic plan roll-out in your area by visiting our website at [www.vafire.com](http://www.vafire.com).

The following strategic goals were identified by VDFP during the strategic planning process. These goals are listed with their associated mission area.

## OUR MISSION

## OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

### Funding

- Improve Business Processes
- Grants

### Professional Development

- Quality Assurance and Certification
- Enhance and Improve Training Programs
- Promote Higher Education
- Increase Course Offerings
- State Training Academy

### Public Fire and Life Safety Education

- Expand Public Fire and Life Safety Education Statewide

### Research

- Provide Fire Information and Studies

### Operational Support

- Provide Additional Support to Virginia Fire and Emergency Services
- Enhance Operational Support Capability

### Advocacy

- Promote Effective Leadership
- Compliance with Applicable Laws, Regulations, Executive Orders, and Guidelines
- Strengthen Internal Communications
- Partnerships
- Increase Health and Safety
- Involvement in Legislative Process

### Technical Assistance

- Homeland Security
- Support Virginia Fire Services Board



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## ***CALENDAR OF EVENTS***

### ***SEPTEMBER***

2003 Wise Regional Fire School  
Dates: September 13-14

Virginia Weekend at the National Fire  
Academy  
Dates: September 13-14

2003 Central Virginia Regional Fire School  
Dates: September 20-21

### ***OCTOBER***

2003 Fire Prevention Week  
Dates: October 5-11

VDFP Fire Prevention and Suppression  
Demonstration  
Date: October 6

2003 Winchester Regional Fire and Rescue  
School  
Dates: October 18-19, 25-26

### ***NOVEMBER***

2003 Roanoke Valley Regional Fall Fire School  
Dates: November 1-2

2003 Virginia Public Safety Outreach Conference  
Dates: November 19-21

### ***DECEMBER***

Virginia Fire Services Board Meeting in Richmond  
Dates: December 4-5

**Make sure your department completes the comprehensive Virginia Fire Services Needs Assessment Survey by October 24, 2003. Only one survey per department. The survey will be available online on September 10th!**